



JMCTC Capabilities are Expanding

JMCTC Establishing Exercise Media Capability. SFC Green (below left) and SPC Johnson (below right) are establishing a news studio for the JMCTC. It will support exercise objectives the same way that the World News Network (WNN) at JFCOM's Joint Warfighting Center (JWFC) does and that the Global News Network (GNN) did for the Warrior Preparation Center (WPC) before it was disbanded. Both SFC Green and SPC Johnson have recently moved to the JMCTC from the WPC where they worked in the GNN studio. JMCTC is in the process of hiring a civilian who will eventually supervise the new Media Section and serve as the Anchorman. The temporary studio they are establishing in LAN 1 will be used until the permanent facility is completed this summer as part of the Building 2000 renovation. They are still acquiring equipment and establishing initial operating capability (IOC). However, they have been tasked to provide some "road to crisis" videos to support the scenario for exercise Iron Strike IV (IS-IV), which is later this month (see article below). Although this is a pre-IOC effort, they are up to the challenge. They are currently developing the name, logo, and other ideas for the exercise news show. They want something different than "X"NN. They are also looking for volunteer field reporters for IS-IV and future exercises. Contact SFC Green now if you have ideas for their new news theme or for your chance to be in the stage lights. Forget American Idol 2008, you can be a star now!

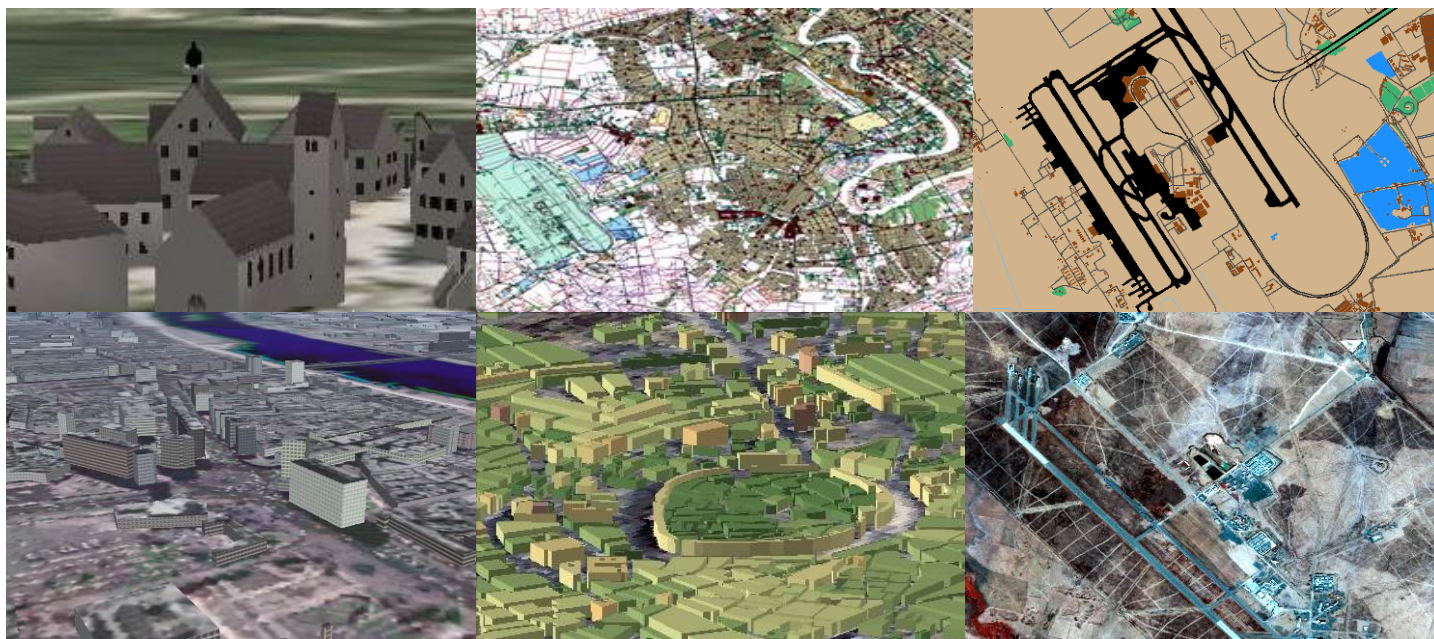


JMCTC Capability Spotlight – TerraSIM. The L-3 Services Group TerraSIM Team supports the USAREUR battle simulation contract. They are a group of nine highly skilled Geographic Information Systems (GIS), image processing, and 3-D Modeling Professionals. Their mission is to provide USAREUR with accurate and timely geospatial and virtual terrain products in support of Mission Planning and Rehearsal, Contingency Operations, and Live, Virtual, and Constructive training. They can generate geospatial databases for any location on earth and can also produce highly accurate geo-specific 3-D models. They are also on-call to provide cartographic support. The JMCTC Director of Simulations approves their tasks and priorities. They produce maps build databases that support:

- Joint Conflict and Tactical Simulation (JCATS)
- Virtual Reality Scene Generator (VRSG) – for UAV simulation
- Command and Control for the PC (C2PC) – for battlefield visualization
- Special Operation Visualization (SOFViz)
- Digital Battlestaff Sustainment Trainer (DBST)
- DARWARS Ambush! – for first person shooter small unit training
- America's Army – developing geo-specific terrain for game technology being developed into a training tool



TerraSIM Team members, pictured in front of the satellite dish they use to download data, are from left to right: Frank Byron, Nate Atwood, Dave Baumgartner, Eric Alford, Mary Karen Keelan, Dawn Will, Nicole Tanner, Dan Rosenbalm, and Brian Perini. A few examples of their many terrain products are shown below. Images (From UL): VRSG JMRC Ubungsdorf; Bagdad digital map; JCATS Baghdad; SOFViz Baghdad; ArcScene Arbil, Iraq; Quickbird image Iraq.



JMCTC Gets TACT PAK. JMCTC has become the first Active Component unit to be fielded Army Battle Command Systems (ABCS 6.4) consolidated into a small cluster of servers known as a “TACT-PAK” ABCS 6.4 is made up of 11 separate systems. Rather than requiring a dedicated computer for each application, the TACT-PAK allows multiple Battle Function Areas (BFA) to be consolidated into a single cluster of servers. The goal of consolidation is to bring hardware and software solutions that will reduce training requirements and costs. JMCTC will host training for the 2SCR, HHC 18th CSB, and the 14th TRANS CO (PLS) from 1-9 March. This will be Individual Army Battle Command Systems (ABCS) Training on FBCB2/BFT, BCS3, ASAS-L, and MCS-L. The training will teach the basic knowledge and skills required to operate these systems. JMCTC currently has one TACT-PAK System consisting of up to 50 clients to facilitate this training. This will greatly reduce the set-up and configuration time to support Individual Digital Training. Additionally, JMCTC will conduct testing and integration in the near future to aid in the proof of principle of TACT-PAK’s applicability in a collective training environment. TACT-PAK, in a collective training environment could populate unit ABCS requirements that cannot be filled because their ABCS systems are en route to an AOR or it could be used to populate HICON/EXCON requirements in a simulation exercise.



JMCTC Gets CPOF. JMCTC recently received 16 Command Post of the Future (CPOF) computer systems to support new equipment training (NET). These systems are on temporary loan while the six CPOF systems that the JMCTC has received as permanent property book items for training are being processed by the warehouse.

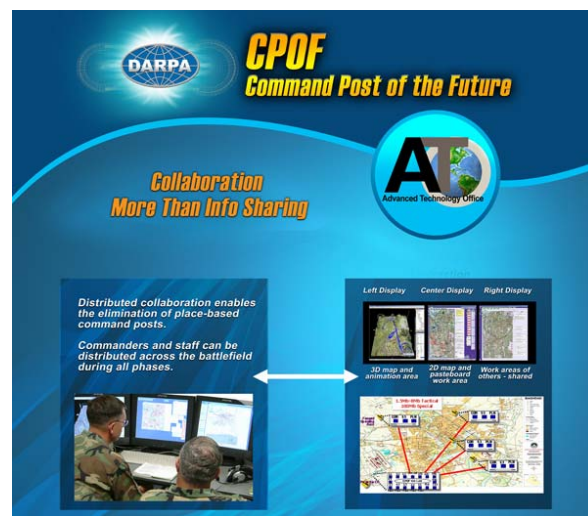
According to the DARPA web site: “CPOF provides planning and mapping tools to support the CDR's battle management and Information Operations processes by rapidly processing and correlating combat information from all available sources. The goal of the CPOF system is to provide CDRs and their staff with an advanced distributed, collaborative decision making environment, thus eliminating fixed command posts and enable true mobile, distributed command.

CPOF is an information-centric tool that provides real-time knowledge sharing that directly impacts team effectiveness and decision-making. The highly intuitive visualizations allow officers to quickly review one another's data to support the unique demands of battlefield awareness. It achieves this by integrating CoMotion and Command Sight software technologies to

provide a comprehensive workspace tool that contains frames of various sorts, such as charts, tables, and customized appliances specific to the application. Integration with existing ABCS systems, critical for providing accurate SA to CPOF operators, is achieved through the Data Bridge. Key design principles central to the technical approach in development include:

- **Composability** - CDRs can access, view, configure, and tune data, visualizations, workspace, and processes in a way that supports their thinking. The computer is an instrument for artists (tactical) to express thoughts and understandings.
- **Collaboration** - "Topsight" provides the visualization and understanding of who is doing what in the system allowing the command staff to better manage and share their C2 resources and expertise. While current procedures focus on Course of Action generation and capture in a heavy text format, the command staff of the future will have the ability to collaboratively generate, share and evaluate visual COAs and Operation Orders maximizing the use of graphics over text.
- **Visualization** - Information is displayed in the way each CDR thinks about it, with pedigree information preserving the trail of data.”

JMCTC will support CPOF training for several units in the coming months. JMCTC is currently providing CPOF support to the 18th MP Brigade and will provide the same support units deploying to OIF in the future.



IRON STRIKE IV (IS-IV). IS-IV was originally going to be the 1AD Warfighter Exercise (WFX). However, a month before the exercise, the Battle Command Training Program (BCTP) personnel were reprioritized to support another unit. As a result, the exercise was re-scoped by USAREUR in coordination with V Corps, JMTC, JMCTC, and 1AD and renamed IRON STRIKE IV. Setup is underway and exercise planners are scrambling to reengineer the exercise without the 250 personnel and many of the products BCTP was originally going to provide. The Exercise Director will be the new V Corps Commander, LTG Thurman. He will participate in the exercise from Wiesbaden Army Airfield where the tactical command posts will be. The only exception will be the 2SCR CP, which will be located at Vilseck Army Airfield. The exercise HICON will be located at the JMCTC in Grafenwöhr. The JMCTC Intelligence and Security Branch will provide the OPFOR. This response cell and many others will support the exercise from the JMCTC. The 7th ARCOM will provide life support for the exercise and the 5th Signal Command will support the exercise, to include working with JMCTC personnel to man the JMCTC Communication and Simulation Operations Center (CSOC). The actual execution dates of IS-IV are 10-15 March and the After Action Review (AAR) will be on 16 March.

The JMCTC will provide simulation support using the Joint Land Component Constructive Training Capability -Multi Resolution Federation (JLCCTC-MRF). The JLCCTC-MRF is a command post exercise (CPX) driver designed for training Army commanders and their staffs. It uses a collection of integrated Simulation Models that stimulate Army Battle Command Systems (ABCS) to facilitate Command and Staff training in: maneuver, logistics, intelligence, air defense and artillery. The JLCCTC provides a simulated operational environment, in which computer generated forces stimulate and respond to the command and control processes of the commanders and staffs. You can learn more about the JLCCTC here: <http://www.peostri.army.mil/PRODUCTS/JLCCTC/>.



BSNCOC Exercise. The first Battle Staff NCO (BSNCO) Course Exercise conducted in both Germany and Italy simultaneously was facilitated by the JMCTC. This was the first of these simulation exercises to be conducted collaboratively between locations, in this case, the JMCTC Hub Site at Grafenwöhr and the Vicenza Battle Simulation Center Spoke Site. This course is regularly supported by our JMCTC contractors who run the Joint Conflict and Tactical Simulation (JCATS) simulation to support the exercise. The constructive exercise is the culminating event for the BSNCO Course; it ties together all they have learned in classroom instruction.



Pictures above were taken in the JMCTC JOC during the BSNCO Course Exercise (one of the course participants was SFC Truesdale from the JMTC G-4, far left).

Spoke Site Exercises. Our L3 battle simulations contractors supported several exercises in February at the JMCTC spoke sites. These include: exercises conducted by the 21st Theater Support Command (TSC) for the 109th TRANS CO - using DARWARS, and the 421st MED - using the Joint Deployment Logistics Model (JDLM); the L3 Team at the Joint Multinational Readiness Command (JMRC) provided the Digital Battlestaff Sustainment Trainer (DBST) wrap-around for the 12th CAB MRX; and battle simulations contractors trained soldiers from the 1AD to be Corps Battle Simulation (CBS) pucksters (personnel that input data from the training audience into the simulation) in support of exercise IS-IV; they trained 59 at Grafenwöhr, 56 at Baumholder, and 28 at Wiesbaden.

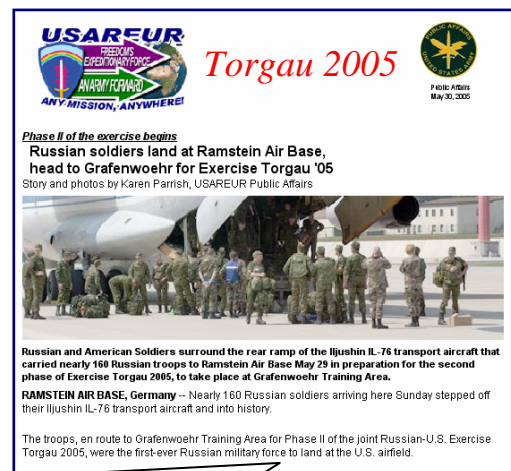
TORGAU CDC. TORGAU is an annual bilateral exercise between the U.S. and Russia. It is a United States European Command (USEUCOM) directed exercise that is hosted by USAREUR. The Concept Development Conference (CDC) was held for this exercise from 20-23 February in Baumholder, Germany. TORGAU 05 was held at Grafenwöhr (see USAREUR PAO article extract, at right). TORGAU 06 was to be in Russian but was cancelled due to the lack of a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). The Initial Planning Conference (IPC) will be 22-28 April in Heidelberg. The Main Planning Conference (MPC) will be 9-14 July at the JMCTC.

TORGAU 07 will be a two phase event. PHASE I will be in September in Russia. It will include a brigade live fire demonstration for select personnel and a Final Planning Conference (FPC) which begins on the 24th and will include the writing of the higher headquarters orders for the exercise. The total number of U.S. personnel that participate in PHASE I will be limited to preclude the need for a SOFA agreement. PHASE II will be a Division CPX at the JMCTC in November. From 30-50 Russians are expected to participate in the CPX and possibly 100-150 (company size) Russian personnel will participate in a concurrent FTX. The actual execution days of the CPX will be four days with the After Action Review (AAR) being on 16 November.

The exercise is named after the city of Torgau, which is in northwest Germany on the banks of the Elbe River. It is famous as a place in World War II history as the place where U.S. Army forces coming from the west met with forces of the Soviet Union coming from the east during the invasion of Germany on April 25, 1945. This marked the beginning of the line of contact between Soviet and American forces, but not the finalized occupation zone line. The area surrounding Torgau initially occupied by U.S. forces was later, in July 1945, given over to Soviet forces in compliance with the Yalta Agreement. The historic town center includes a monument for the meeting of the Russian and American troops on the Elbe and a Russian military cemetery.

JMCTC Branch Grows in Size and Responsibility. The JMCTC Network and Communications Branch has grown from only a few a couple of months ago to a group of nine government personnel, many of which are very experienced. Their responsibilities are growing with their increasing capabilities. One of those responsibilities will be creating the Interim Authority to Operate (IATO) documents, which are required for nearly every JMCTC training event. The IATOs allow the legal operation of simulations to support training using tightly controlled military networks. The Simulation Branch has been overseeing the IATO process until recently. This new mission for the branch is complicated by recent changes that govern Information Assurance (IA). The new, more stringent, process is called the Department of Defense Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process (DIACAP). It is intended to verify that networks are in compliance with the DoD network security requirements.

In addition to taking on the requirement to create IATOs for training events, the Communications and Network Branch is also in the process of accrediting the JMCTC operational / administrative network. This will involve a complete network and IT component risk assessment to include the identification and location of all unit hardware, software, and “networkable” peripheral equipment and



the vulnerability analysis of these components on the network system. This is an annual requirement that will be completed in April. Both the IATOs JMCTC commonly requires for simulation-based exercises and the annual operational Authority to Operate (ATO) now must have general officer approval and signature under the DIACAP process.

The Network and Commo Branch is also beginning to evaluate thin-client architecture to replace current JMCTC client / server platforms. Thin-client solutions (like TACT-PAK, which is used for ABCS) are a philosophical paradigm shift for deploying, operating, and managing classified and unclassified networks. Thin-client architecture components consist of terminal servers and thin-client terminals. They facilitate centralized maintenance and remote administering, upgrading, and reconfiguring of thin-clients without IT support staff having to visit the desktop. An evaluation team will determine if a thin-client solution can reduce exercise setup, maintenance, and security requirements at the JMCTC. They will also assess whether or not a thin-client solution is suitable for common simulation applications. A thin-client system may be initially used in Building 2000 this summer. Pictured left to right are PFC Brown, SSG Hall, SGT Rosado, Mr. Ware, WO1 Fenn, SGT Dunlap, and SFC Germain (SGTs Lord and Lamar are in the Network and Communications Branch but are not pictured).



Polish Land Forces Commander Visit. BG Skarżyński, Polish Land Forces Chief of Training and members of his staff visited the JMCTC on 23 February (see pictures below of briefing and facilities tour). In 2006 JMCTC participated in an exercise with the Polish Army and several exercise planning conferences in Bydgoszcz, Poland at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Joint Force Training Centre (JFTC). You may recall from the last newsletter that the new JFTC Commander, MG Rokas, visited the JMCTC a few weeks ago. In the last year and a half, the JMCTC has supported three UN International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) subordinate unit pre-deployment staff training events for NATO forces going to Afghanistan. The exercises held at the JMCTC were for the South Eastern European Brigade (SEEBRIG), Regional Command – Capitol (RC-C), and Regional Command – South (RC-S).



Left: Participants discuss exercises with the JMCTC CDR and CSM, Center: JMCTC DDOS explains a simulations diagram, Right: JMCTC DOS leads a facilities tour.

Hails, Farewells, and Promotions.

SPC James Johnson. Arrived at the JMCTC on 31 Jan 07 from the Warrior Preparation Center (WPC), where he was a Graphics Artist for their Global News Network (before it was disbanded). He is now assigned to the Operations Branch where is helping to establish an exercise news capability to support exercise scenarios in order to achieve training objectives (see page 1).

Ms. Maria Milinovich. Arrived 26 Feb 07 from the Warrior Preparation Center, where she served as the Scheduler, she will be serving in the Operation Branch as the JMCTC Scheduler.

SSG Harold Taylor. A retirement ceremony was held for SSG Taylor on 27 February. He served 20 years in the Army starting out as an Artilleryman and serving most of his career in the Intelligence field. He was assigned to the JMCTC from January 04 until March 2007 as the Intelligence Sergeant and Security Manager. All of us at the JMCTC wish him, his wife Lisa and their children Courtney and Dustin the best in civilian life. *Right, SSG Taylor receives retirement award and gifts from JMCTC.*



LTC Packard Mills. MAJ Mills will be promoted today, 1 March, in Building 1484 (JMCTC AAR Facility). He recently transferred from JMRC in Hohenfels to the JMCTC where he now serves as the Intelligence and Security Branch Chief.

SGT Steven Kettel II. As his first official act as a Lieutenant Colonel, LTC Mills will promote SPC Kettel to Sergeant later today (1 March). He is an All Source Intelligence Analyst assigned to the Intelligence and Security Branch.



LTC Mills SGT Kettel

Hail and Farewell. Although, 16 March is a USAREUR training holiday, JMCTC personnel will be working to recover from exercise IRON STRIKE IV (the AAR is on this day). However, we will take a lunch break on this day from 1130-1300 to have a cook out and hail the numerous personnel that have arrived since December. JMCTC military personnel will observe the USAREUR Training Holidays on 17-20 March. Branch Chiefs will have post-exercise release authority (some may have to work the weekend).

Upcoming Events. See the JMCTC OPS Calendar here: <https://gesportal.dod.mil/sites/DOSF/default.aspx> requires CAC Card access.

Closing Thoughts. The JMCTC continues to rapidly grow and evolve as an organization; the emerging media capability is the latest example. Our reorganization will be complete in July, as remaining Army positions assigned to the Warrior Preparation Center are transitioned to Grafenwöhr and civilian hiring actions are completed. With only a month to revise the IS-IV exercise after BCTP was reprioritized, it will be an exercise planning challenge. However, I am confident that JMCTC personnel will demonstrate their versatility and do their part to make IS-IV a valuable training event. We will recap the outcome of IS-IV in the April Newsletter.

Train as you fight, fight to win! LTC Seitz, JMCTC DDOS